

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GEORGE 01310 291937Z

64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ARAE-00 DRC-01 /111 W

----- 030174

P R 291810Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0065

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BUENO AIRES

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMCONSUL BELIEZE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1310

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, GY

SUBJECT: GUYANA OAS MEMBERSHIP - WHY?

REF: STATE 158470

1. REFTEL SEEMSTO ASSUME THAT USG SHOULD FOLLOW-UP SEC-  
RETARY'S POLICY STATEMENT IMPLIEDLY FAVORING GUYANA'S MEMBER-  
SHIP IN OAS WITH SOME ACTION (I.E. PUSH REPEAL OF ARTICLE 8)  
WHICH WOULD BRING ABOUT THAT MEMBERSHIP, AT LEAST IF SUCH  
ACTION HAS REASONABLE CHANCE OF SUCCESS AND WOULD NOT SIGNI-  
FICANTLY DAMAGE OUR RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA, GUATEMALA  
AND ARGENTINA. WHILE WE APPEAR OBLIGATED TO HAVE TO VOTE  
IN FAVOR OF GUYANA'S MEMBERSHIP IF THE ISSUE IS FORCED,  
AND, PRESUMABLY TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF WEAKENING ARTICLE 8,  
WHY SHOULD WE DO ANYTHING MORE UNLESS WE SEE CLEAR NET  
BENEFIT TO U.S. INTERESTS? IMPLICATIONS FOR BELIEZE OF  
ARTICLE 8 REPEAL ARE NOT PROPER SUBJECT FOR GEORGETOWN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GEORGE 01310 291937Z

COMMENT, BUT OUR ANALYSIS OF PROS AND CONS OF GUYANA'S OAS

MEMBERSHIP LEAVES THE DESIRABILITY OF THAT MEMBERSHIP IN DOUBT FROM STANDPOINT OF US INTERESTS.

2. PROS, AS WE SEE THEM, INCLUDE: (A) GUYANA'S OAS MEMBERSHIP WOULD GIVE US A POSSIBILITY OF KEEPING VENEZUELA-GUYANA BORDER DISPUTE WITHIN REGIONAL BODY RATHER THAN UN. (B) INSOFAR AS GUYANA BELIEVES IT CAN FIND DEFENSE AGAINST VENEZUELA IN THE OAS, ONE OF ITS BASIC REASONS FOR AFRO-ASIAN TIES WOULD BE REMOVED. (C) OAS MEMBERSHIP WOULD GIVE U.S. INCREASED LEVERAGE AND ANOTHER LEVEL OF DIALOGUE TO INFLUENCE GUYANA IN LINE WITH U.S. POLICY OBJECTIVES. (D) GUYANA'S OAS MEMBERSHIP, AT LEAST AS LONG AS CUBA REMAINS OUTSIDE OAS, MIGHT HAVE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT OF DILUTING HER TIRD WORLD IMAGE, BOTH INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY. (E) MEMBERSHIP WOULD AT LEAST THEORETICALLY IMPOSE OAS OBLIGATIONS ON GUYANA IN RETURN FOR THE BENEFITS FROM SUCH OAS AFFILIATES AS IDB.

3. CONS SEEM TO INCLUDE : (A) GUYANA'S PRESENT AND PAST VOTING RECORD INDICATE SHE WILL BE A REGULAR OPPONENT OF THE U.S. WITHIN THE OAS. GUYANA'S FONMIN RAMPHAL TOLD CHARGE EARLIER THIS MONTH AFTER RETURNING FROM PERU THAT HE FEELS GUYANA HAS MORE COMMON INTEREST WITH PERU THAN WITH ANY OTHER LATAM COUNTRY. DO WE WANT A FIRM ALLY FOR PERU AND ITS POLICIES IN THE OAS ? (B) GUYANA WOULD PROBABLY TEND TO DRAG OR ATTRACT MORE CONSERVATIVE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN OAS STATES INTO A RADICAL STANCE AS PART OF A PERUVIAN BLOC. (C) GUYANA WOULD BE A STRONG LOBBYIST FOR AND SUPPORTER OF READMITTING CUBA, (D) OAS MEMBERSHIP WOULD GIVE GUYANA ANOTHER FORUM IN WHICH TO PROMOTE ITS RADICAL THIRD WORLD POLICIES, (E) IN EVENT OF CONFLICT WITH VENEZUELA, GUYANA WOULD PROBABLY STILL CALL FOR UN INTERVENTION DESPITE OAS MEMBERSHIP, AND (F) GUYANA MIGHT EVEN PUBLICLY PROCLAIM AFTER ARTICLE 8 WAS REMOVED THAT IT WAS INTERESTED IN JOINING THE OAS ONLY IF CUBA WERE READMITTED. FONMIN RAMPHAL (GEORGETOWN 665) CLEARLY INDICATED THAT MEMBERSHIP IN OAS SUBSIDIARY AND RELATED BODIES (E.G. IDB) WAS OF MORE INTEREST TO GUYANA NOW THAN OAS MEMBERSHIP.

4. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT THE USG CONSIDER TAKING A BACK SEAT ON THIS ONE ON GROUNDS OF U.S. INTERESTS SUCH AS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GEORGE 01310 291937Z

THOSE OUTLINED ABOVE RATHER THAN ON THE BASIS OF RESPONSES TO REFTTEL, CONFINING OUR ACTIVITIES TO MILD STATEMENTS OR VOTES FOR ARTICLE 8 REPEAL OR GUYANASE MEMBERSHIP ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS. MATTHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEMBERSHIP, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974GEORGE01310  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740205-0949  
**From:** GEORGETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740710/aaaaaiir.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 158470  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GUYANA OAS MEMBERSHIP - WHY?  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GY, XM, US, OAS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005